Opening of Post Offices in Villages

†5353. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of such villages where post-offices are not available by the year 2000;

(b) the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the scheme of Government to open post offices in such villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The number of villages where post office is not available but are otherwise provided postal facility of delivery of mail is given herewith in the enclosed statement. *(See* below)

(c) New Post Offices are opened as per plan projections. This is subject to availability of funds and sanctioning of required posts by Ministry of Finance.

Statement

Circle-wise numebr of villages with and without Post Offices as on 29.2.2000

SI. No.	Circle	No. of Villages without Post Office
1.	Andhra	12275
2.	Assam	22638
3.	Bihar	66483
4.	Delhi	79
5.	Gujarat	10386
6.	Haryana	4446
7.	Himachal	14352
8.	J&K-	4963
9.	Karnataka	21003
10.	Kerala	nil
11.	M.P.	61235
12.	Maharashtra	30169
13.	N.E.	15076
14.	Orissa	38861

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

SI. No.	Circle	No. of Villages without Post Office
15.	Punjab	9049
16.	Rajasthan	28332
17.	Tamilnadu	7243
18.	U.P.	94660
19.	W.B.	33945
	TOTAL:	475195

Installation of Rural Public Telephones in Maharaj I -a

5354. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Rural Public Telephones installed in Maharashtra during the year 1999, district-wise and exchange-wise; and

(b) the number of such telephones proposed to be installed in Maharashtra during 2000, exchange-wise and district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) 165 village public telephones were installed in Maharashtra during the year 1999- 2000. Details are given in the enclosed statement. *(See* below)

(b) In Maharashtra, 31,541 villages have been provided with telephone VPTs out of 42,467 villages. The remaining 10,926 villages will be covered with telephone facility (VPTs) progressively by the private basic fixed service provider by March, 2002.

Statement

District-wise and Exchange-wise VPT achievement during 1999-2000

Sl.No.	Name of SSA	Parent Exchange	VPTs Provided
1.		Gargoti	1
2.	Kolhapur	Kaulav	1
		Wakavali	8
	Ratnagiri	Deorukh	1
3.	Nagpur	Kurwahi	6
		Mauda	2
		Parseoni	1